



MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Sachi A. Hamai, Executive Officer-
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
Los Angeles, California 90012

At its meeting held September 2, 2008, the Board took the following action:

12

The following item was called up for consideration:

Supervisor Antonovich's recommendation to send a five-signature letter to the Southern California Congressional Delegation opposing S. 3069 (Boxer) and H.R. 6156 (McKeon), companion bills that would designate approximately 473,000 acres of public land in California as "Wilderness Areas," unless amended to include language that would ensure that the Los Angeles County Fire Department retains its ability to implement fire prevention, control, and suppression activities in designated Wilderness Areas within Los Angeles County; and instruct the County's Advocates in Washington, D.C. to pursue this position on the legislation.

The following revised statement was entered into the record for Supervisor Antonovich:

"The creation of new Wilderness Areas within the boundaries of the Angeles National Forest, as proposed in H.R. 6156 (McKeon) and S. 3069 (Boxer), could impair the ability of the Los Angeles County Fire Department's mission to implement fire prevention, control, and suppression activities. The Wilderness Area designation could also limit the ability of County personnel and local homeowners to implement fuel modification measures including brush clearance to reduce the threat to life and property."

(Continued to page 2)

Therefore, on motion of Supervisor Antonovich, seconded by Supervisor Yaroslavsky, unanimously carried, the Board ordered that a five-signature letter be sent to the Southern California Congressional Delegation in support of S. 3069 (Boxer) and H.R. 6156 (McKeon), companion bills that would designate approximately 473,000 acres of public land in California as "Wilderness Areas," if amended to incorporate language consistent with the following language from H.R. 3682:

1. IN GENERAL - The Secretary may take such measures in a wilderness area or wilderness addition designated by this Act as are necessary for the control and prevention of fire, insects, and diseases (including the use of prescribed burning, priority treatments, or fuels reduction) in accordance with section 4(d)(1) of the Wilderness Act (16 U.S.C.1133(d)(1)) and House Report 98-40 of the 98th Congress.
2. FUNDING PRIORITIES - The designation of wilderness areas and wilderness additions by this title is not intended to alter the priorities afforded the land so designated in allocating funds for fire and related fuels management.
3. REVISION AND DEVELOPMENT OF LOCAL FIRE MANAGEMENT PLANS - As soon as practicable after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall amend the local fire management plans that apply to the Santa Rosa Wilderness and Agua Tibia Wilderness, and prepare local fire management plans for the Beauty Mountain Wilderness, Cahuilla Mountain Wilderness, and South Fork San Jacinto Wilderness Area, to identify appropriate local officials to take such actions in the wilderness areas as are necessary for fire prevention and watershed protection consistent with paragraph (1), including best management practices for fire pre-suppression and fire suppression measures and techniques.
4. STATE OR LOCAL AGENCIES - Consistent with paragraph (1) and other applicable Federal law, the Secretary may delegate by written agreement primary fire fighting authority and related public safety activities to an appropriate State or local agency.

Later in the meeting, on motion of Supervisor Burke, seconded by Supervisor Yaroslavsky, unanimously carried, the foregoing motion was reconsidered for a member of the public to address the Board.

Arnold Sachs addressed the Board.

12 (Continued)

On motion of Supervisor Antonovich, seconded by Supervisor Yaroslavsky, unanimously carried, Supervisor Antonovich's aforementioned motion was approved.

05090208_12

Attachment

Copies distributed:

- Each Supervisor
- Chief Executive Officer
- County Counsel
- Fire Chief